

STRONG MESSAGE TO CRIMINALS

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, along with the following Members of Congress: Mr. MCCOLLUM, Ms. DUNN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BEREUTER, and Mr. REDMOND.

In 1994, Three Strikes and You're Out became law. 18 U.S.C. 3559(c) provides for mandatory life imprisonment for individuals who commit more than two serious violent felonies or serious drug offenses. I supported this law and continue to believe that it can be a very important tool for law enforcement. There is, however, a loophole in the Three Strikes law: It applies only to individuals sentenced as adults. The Three Strikes law allows juveniles who commit serious violent felonies and serious drug offenses to rack up as many of these offenses as possible, then ignores those offenses once they become adults.

This bill would require that a juvenile adjudication for an offense that would be considered a serious violent felony or serious drug offense if committed by an adult, count as one and only one strike for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 3559(c). This bill would hold accountable juveniles who commit serious violent criminal offenses, if they continue their criminal activity as adults. By making individuals accountable for the serious violent crimes they commit as juveniles, I believe we send a strong message that we are tough on criminals—of all ages.

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT L. PICCETTI

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, about a year ago, at the invitation of Rosemary Mucklow, I had the opportunity to go to San Francisco and speak to the National Meat Association. While there, Rosemary invited us to a reception at the home of Agnes and Al Piccetti. It was a wonderful house perched high on the slope of one of San Francisco's many hillsides. The view was spectacular, the food tremendous, and the host family as delightful and graceful as a California spring day.

The Piccetti, Gatto, and DeMartini family members made us all feel at ease. Their home was ours. Their generosity was ours to enjoy. Their obvious and apparent success was ours to celebrate.

How did one get to live such a life? How was it that the family of first generation of Americans could experience such a generous slice of prosperity and affluence? Was it luck? Desire? Hard work? Or belief in a greater ideal and that of the American dream?

I left believing it was the latter. Mr. and Mrs. Piccetti had put in their time, taken risk, worked long hours, persevered and succeeded, but throughout their highs and lows, victories and defeats, they believe in America. What it stands for and what an individual can accomplish in our great system of enterprise and government.

Their story is worth telling. Ms. Mucklow was kind enough to write a brief biography, and I am honored to enter it into the RECORD.

ALBERT L. PICCETTI

Albert Piccetti was born to John and Viola Piccetti in 1918 at their home in the North Beach Community of San Francisco, California. He grew up on Telegraph Hill, a working class neighborhood that was home to new immigrants from Italy and Spain. Eight-year-old Albert learned the value of hard work as soon as he was old enough to accompany his father on his garbage pick-up route through the streets of San Francisco. As one of his earliest work memories, Al remembers his father persuading a reluctant team of Clydesdale horses to back up on a wooden ramp to empty the wagon's haul for the day.

Surrounded by the strong work ethic of new Americans, young Al's first business venture was as a shoe shine entrepreneur. After painstakingly building his shoe box, Al was ready for his first customers in Washington Park. It wasn't long before he received a lesson in "sales territories" from the established shoe shine boys. It was to be Al's shortest business endeavor!

At the age of 16, Albert became the sole support of his parents and younger sister when his father suffered a debilitating stroke. Although not physically tall in stature, he survived the rigorous initiation of a partner-worker into the Golden Gate Scavenger Company working alongside men the age of his father as the primary breadwinner for the family.

He met his life's partner, Agnes Gatto, at the local Italian social club. She was chaperoned under the very watchful eyes of her brothers. When they return from their honeymoon, a draft notice from Uncle Sam was waiting. During the war years, Al was most proud of her certification as an instrument flight trainer and used his natural drawing talents to instruct new pilots.

Following the war, Al joined his wife's family in operating a local bar and grill in the produce and printing district of San Francisco. Al took this opportunity to sharpen his culinary skills, which are still widely appreciated today by friends and family!

In 1957, Al Piccetti, along with his brother-in-law, Felix Gatto, and his boyhood friend, Ernie DeMartini, purchased a family-run Italian sausage factory, and kept the name: San Francisco Sausage Company. They learned every aspect of their new business making traditional Italian salame. The company was, and is today, best known for its Columbus brand salame. Considered more an art than a science at the time, their growing success soon demanded a larger manufacturing plant. Moving a cured dry sausage operation entailed unknown risks due to the fastidious requirements of the white, Penicillin-type molds that grow on the surface of the salame as it matures. Those early years were a challenge to their fortitude in unraveling the mysteries of mycology. Albert was on the forefront of implementing new scientific methods to ensure the safety and tradition of the product that his forefathers introduced to the United States. After almost 30 years in the business, Albert retired from the San Francisco Sausage Company as President and CEO in 1985. He and his partners left the business in the hands of the next generation of Piccettis, Gattos, and DeMartinis.

Upon retiring and with his four children grown, Al, characteristically, moved on to pursue a new dream. Al and Agnes Piccetti purchased hillside acreage in the Dry Creek Valley of Sonoma County, north of San Francisco. Local realtors scratched their heads in puzzlement at his choice of undeveloped scrub brush property; but, Al already envisioned the slopes lush with grapevines. The newly retired couple spent their nights

in a small trailer, with Al busy designing and planting their first vineyard. In time, they built their home. Al's designs are evident in every facet of the AA Ranch: precise layout and trellising of the grapes; the functional beauty of the iron work in the ceiling beams; and, the careful placement of stone water causeways.

Al Piccetti's warmth, generosity and friendship have touched thousands of people in his communities, church, family, and business. Al's accomplishments are the story of the American Dream of hard work, love, dedication and respect. We're pleased to place this acknowledgement of his continuing life in the RECORD.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS.
PHYLLIS THIELE HILL**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding teacher and friend, Phyllis Thiele Hill.

Phyllis passed away March 15, 1997 leaving behind her loving husband of 50 years, Robert Hill, and three beautiful children, Linda, Nancy, and Rusty. She began her career at Montgomery College in 1959, where she worked for 34 years. In 1961, Phyllis became secretary to the registrar. In 1965, she was promoted to data processing operator II, and 4 years later, advanced to data processing operator supervisor. She switched to Standards and Documentation Technician for Computing Services in 1983, where she utilized her phenomenal artistic and writing skills. She created much of the documentation, newsletters, and handbooks used by the college community.

Most people look forward to retirement, but not Phyllis. She enjoyed her work and passed on that enjoyment to everyone whose life she touched at Montgomery College in the 34 years she spent there. In fact, during my tenure as professor at the college, I had the pleasure of working with her. Phyllis' hard work and dedication merited numerous awards, including three for outstanding service, a peer award, and a sustained service award.

In June of 1995, Phyllis was diagnosed with lymphoma, which she fought courageously before succumbing to the sickness. Though this marked the end of her physical life, Phyllis' contributions are still felt in the hearts of the many people she has touched. Her memory continues to live with us all.

IN HONOR OF THE CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland during the yearlong celebration of serving northeast Ohio for 150 years.

The diocese was established in 1847 and originally served 10,000 Catholics. Today, nearly one million people in northeast Ohio

are associated with the diocese which provides innumerable benefits ranging from spiritual guidance and charity to education and health services for everyone in the community.

The diocese is comprised of a myriad of ethnic communities. Catholic German and Irish immigrants settled in northeast Ohio in the early 1800's. Later, immigrants from eastern and southern Europe made their home there. In the early 1900's, many immigrants from Mexico and, following World War II, immigrants from Puerto Rico moved to the area to work in the steel mills. The diverse ethnic groups of the diocese are united as a family in their common religious beliefs and goodwill toward each other and the rest of the community in spite of social, economic, or racial differences. This diversity cherished and celebrated as an asset to the diocese.

Upholding a longstanding tradition of goodwill, the people of the diocese work together to serve over 600,000 people annually in Catholic hospitals, charities, and agencies. Over \$80 million worth of health and human services is provided each year through these organizations. Furthermore, 70,000 students from all socio-economic levels are educated in Catholic-affiliated schools including the 146 elementary schools, 23 high schools, 2 seminaries, and several colleges and universities in the northeast Ohio area.

Events catering to different constituencies of the diocese are planned throughout the year to celebrate this landmark anniversary. A "Celebration on the Mall" in Cleveland, scheduled for August 17, 1997, will feature the multicultural aspects of the community. Dancing, arts, games, food, and a major liturgical event will fill the day culminating in a fireworks display in the evening.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in praising the Catholic diocese of Cleveland, a diverse, charitable, and faithful family dedicated to the improvement of and inextricably united to the northeast Ohio community.

A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE TO THE SIN SINAWA DOMINICAN CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride today that I pay tribute to an assembly of women, indomitable women, on the occasion of their sesquicentennial anniversary. As the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters celebrate 150 years of mission and ministry, I would like to take a moment to reflect on and to honor their tradition and their vision.

Founded on August 4, 1847, by the Reverend Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli, O.P., in Sinsinawa, WI, the order identified education as its primary mission. Acknowledging the power of knowledge, the sisters committed themselves to taking education to immigrant and minority populations throughout Wisconsin, into northern Illinois, and Minnesota.

By the 1870's, the Sinsinawa Dominicans brought their talents to Milwaukee County, eventually teaching in 11 city and suburban schools, including St. Rose Grade School and Dominican High School where their education mission continues today.

In the ensuing years, the Sinsinawa Dominicans continued to make education a priority. While living among the people whom they served, they saw discrimination, they saw poverty, they saw abuse. In typical Dominican fashion, they committed themselves to "an intentional focus on justice as essential to Dominican mission. We will work for justice and peace through our ministries, with an emphasis on issues concerning race, women and children, the Church and ecology." (Chapter Directions, 1994).

In 1997, 150 years after Father Mazzuchelli accepted the first 4 Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters into the order, these extraordinary women, who now serve in 83 dioceses throughout the United and abroad, continue to bring the power of learning to young and old, to native and immigrant. But now rededicated to community justice, the sisters also work among us as healers, as advocates for women and children, as lawyers, as literacy proponents, as writers of and makers of our common history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dominican women in Milwaukee, in Wisconsin, and throughout the world as they celebrate their remarkable history. May they look to their future with confidence, and with the gratitude of communities everywhere.

U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIANS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the House, especially my good friend JIM SEXTON, who has been a leader in Middle East issues, in adopting the Forbes-Saxton amendment that temporarily suspends U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority and PLO until the President can report and certify that they are complying with various elements of the Oslo accords and other human rights. It's the right amendment at the right time. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, I am in a unique position to follow the progress of the Middle East peace process in great detail and have done so since coming to Congress 3 years ago. My friends, it is with great disappointment that I report to you—there hasn't been any progress. Since the signing of the Oslo accords in 1993, have we had peace? Have the Palestinian Authority and the PLO lived up to their commitments in the Oslo accords? No we have not and no they have not.

Year after year, the violations and gross misconduct of the Palestinian Authority and PLO continue to grow. History is sometimes a cruel, but honest teacher. We can never allow politics of the moment to obscure the essential facts: The Palestinian Authority and the PLO openly violate the Oslo accords and continue to disregard the human rights of Israelis and Americans in Israel.

Yesterday we witnessed the brutal bomb explosion in Israel killing at least 13 and wounding more than 150. Hamas later claimed responsibility. Living with this kind of senseless violence is unbearable for all in the region and my deepest condolences go out to those who

lost a loved one in the explosion. This latest example of terrorism leads me to ask the question—why isn't there peace between the Israelis and Palestinians? Since the Oslo accords in 1993, the world has witnessed rioting and bombs exploding in the streets of Israel, buses exploding, and Prime Ministers assassinated. With the stroke of a pen or an impassioned speech, one man could help restore peace to the region—Yassir Arafat. Instead, his silence and inaction has allowed the spigot of violence to flow. With the passage of the Forbes-Saxton amendment, the House is rejecting the policies of Arafat, an international terrorist.

For the benefit of all who are following this debate, allow me to summarize some of the more egregious violations and examples of blatant misconduct by the Palestinian Authority and the PLO. There's no question about it—Arafat has blood on his hands. I ask you why should we squander taxpayer money on a regime that has since September 1993, the signing of the Oslo accords:

First, Arafat announced that he was setting aside seats in his cabinet for representatives of four terrorist groups: Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. In January 1997, Arafat appointed Imad Halouji, a Hamas activist from Gaza, as a Minister Without Portfolio; and Arafat named Sheikh Talal Sidr, a Hamas activist from Hebron, as Minister of Youth and Sports. He was one of the Hamas terror leaders deported to Lebanon in 1992 by Prime Minister Rabin.

Second, Arafat's cabinet announced, on May 3, 1997, that it would impose the death penalty for any Arab who sells land to Jews. During the weeks following the announcement, 3 Arab landsellers were found murdered.

Third, there has never been an overall disarmament of the terrorists or seizure of the tens of thousands of illegal weapons in the hands of private Arab citizens in PLO-controlled areas. Arafat has estimated that there are 26,000 such weapons in Gaza alone, according to other estimates, there are 40,000.

Fourth, the PLO has not honored any of Israel's requests for extradition.

Fifth, Palestinian Arab newspapers that fail to toe the Arafat line are shut down. During the past 2 years, 6 newspapers have all suffered this fate. The U.S. group, Human Rights Watch found that the PLO regime "has often acted in an arbitrary and repressive fashion, carrying out large numbers of political arrests, censoring the press, and failing to conduct credible investigations into suspected abuses."

Sixth, the PLO's Palestine National Council [PNC] has not revised or annulled the articles in the PLO National Covenant that conflict with the Israel-PLO accords.

Seventh, the Palestinian Authority has failed to adhere to security provisions of the January 17, 1997 Hebron accord. According to the agreement, the Palestinians may have a total of up to 400 policemen, equipped with 20 vehicles and armed with 200 pistols, and 100 rifles for the protection of the police stations. The PA has deployed approximately 1,500 policemen in Hebron, nearly four times the number permitted under the agreement.

If you choose to dismiss the violations I've mentioned, and keep in mind these are only a few, one thing is certain—the practice of murdering Palestinians for selling land to Jews is